

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-06 DODE-00 PM-04 SS-15
SP-02 FEA-01 /089 W
-----042118Z 025891 /70

P R 041700Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3171
ERDA WASHINGTON PRIORITY
ERDA GERMANTOWN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 2123

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH
SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN PLUTONIUM AT EUROCHEMIC FACILITY IN BELGIUM

REF: STATE 44711

1. M. DETILLIEUX, MANAGING DIRECTOR, EUROCHEMIC, HAS CONFIRMED THE FACTUAL INFORMATION IN PARAGRAPHS 2, 3, AND 4 OF REFTEL. HIS CONFIRMATION OF NUMERICAL QUANTITIES WAS APPROXIMATE.
2. HE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS IN PARAGRAPH 5 REFTEL:

(A) EUROCHEMIC HAS AN OBLIGATION TO THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT TO REMOVE ALL WASTES FROM THE PAST OPERATION OF THE REPROCESSING PLANT. THIS OBLIGATION DOES NOT EXTEND TO THE RECOVERED PLUTONIUM STILL ON SITE. NONETHELESS, EUROCHEMIC DESIRES THAT ALL PLUTONIUM BE REMOVED SO THAT THE BURDEN OF PHYSICAL PROTECTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY CAN BE RELIEVED. EXCEPT FOR ABOUT 4 KILOGRAMS OF PLUTONIUM THAT SWITZERLAND HAS AGREED TO REMOVE FOR STORAGE IN SWITZERLAND (BUT HAVE NOT YET DONE), THE NORWEGIAN MATERIAL IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE LAST REMAINING PLUTONIUM AT THE SITE. EUROCHEMIC HAS BEEN PRESSURING NORWAY TO TAKE THEIR MATERIAL AWAY.

(B) THE ONLY OFFER TO TAKE THE MATERIAL THAT EUROCHEMIC IS AWARE OF IS FROM STEAG, AN FRG INDUSTRY INVOLVED IN FUEL FABRICATION. STEAG HAS OFFERED TO TAKE THE PLUTONIUM, BUT HAS NOT OFFERED TO PAY ANYTHING FOR IT. THE PURPOSE IS ASSUMED TO BE FOR EXPERIMENTA-

TION IN FUEL FABRICATION.

(C) MR. DETILLIEUX BELIEVES THAT A POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION WOULD BE TO TRANSFER IT TO BELGONUCLEAIRE FOR STORAGE, BUT HE HAS NOT APPROACHED BELGONUCLEAIRE YET SINCE HE IS GIVING NORWAY A CHANCE TO DISPOSE OF OR SELL THE MATERIAL.

3. DETILLIEUX CAUTIONS THAT HE DOES NOT KNOW THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE NNORWEGIAN PLUTONIUM WHICH HAS BEEN IN STORAGE FOR OVER 8 YEARS. HE ALSO POINTS OUT THAT BY NOW THE PLUTONIUM IS NO LONGER PURE DUE TO BUILDUP OF AMERICIUM. THE DIFFICULTY OF REMOVING THE AMERICIUM IS ONE REASON STEAG HAS NOT BEEN WILLING TO PAY FOR THE MATERIAL. HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PHYSICAL SECURITY, PLUTONIUM, RADIOACTIVE WASTES DISPOSAL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: EC BRUSSELS
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770393/aaaadejo.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8dc8adbd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: TECH, NO, BE
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Type: TE
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